

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1981 - 1982

23 March 1981

DOCUMENT 1-53/81

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the
European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-855/80)
for a regulation concerning, for certain fish stocks
occurring in the Community fishing zone, the fixing
of the total allowable catches for 1981 and the
conditions for taking these catches together with
the shares available to the Community
and on an amendment to this proposal

Rapporteur: Sir Henry PLUMB
Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture

1.2.1

By letter of 30 January 1981, the Council of the European Communities consulted the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the Treaty establishing the EEC, on the proposal for a regulation concerning, for certain fish stocks occurring in the Community fishing zone, the fixing of the total allowable catches for 1981 and the conditions for taking these catches together with the shares available to the Community, and an amendment to this proposal.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture.

At its meeting of 26, 27 and 28 November 1980, the Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Kirk rapporteur. On 18 March Mr Kirk was replaced as rapporteur by Sir Henry Plumb, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture.

The Committee on Agriculture considered this proposal at its meeting of 21, 22 and 23 January 1981.

At its meeting of 17 March 1981, the Committee on Agriculture adopted the motion for a resolution by 19 votes to 1 with 5 abstentions.

Present: Sir Henry Plumb, chairman; and rapporteur; Mr Caillavet, vice-chairman; Mr Barbagli (deputizing for Mr Ligios), Mr Battersby, Mr Blaney (deputizing for Mr Skovmand), Mr Clinton, Mr Colleselli, Mr Dalsass, Mr De Keersmaecker (deputizing for Mr Früh), Mr Delatte, Mr Diana, Mr Fanton, Mr Gautier, Mr Helms, Mrs Herklotz, Mr Kirk, Mr McCartin, (deputizing for Mr d'Ormesson), Mr Maher, Mr M. Martin (deputizing for Mr Maffre-Baugé), Mr Newton-Dunn (deputizing for Mr Hord), Mr Provan, Miss Quin, Mr Sutra, Mr Tolman and Mr Woltjer.

The explanatory memorandum will be presented orally.

The Committee on Agriculture hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation (EEC) concerning, for certain fish stocks occurring in the Community fishing zone, the fixing of the total allowable catches for 1981 and the conditions for taking these catches together with the shares available to the Community and an amendment to this proposal

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(80) 722 and COM(80) 881 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-855/80),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture, (Doc. 1-53/81),
1. Points out that the Commission's document represents merely an initial proposal, not intended to be final, and which will be revised in the course of discussions in the Council;
 2. Emphasizes that the Commission's proposal has been based exclusively on the scientific advice of ICES, and considers that not sufficient account has been taken of the interaction of fish species (the multi-species approach);
 3. Points out that it would be possible to increase quota proposals if maximum use were made of species of fish for human consumption, by paying greater attention to minimum catch sizes and by preventing the wrong sizes of fish being caught during the wrong periods of the year;
 4. Calls, therefore, upon the Commission to revise its proposal and to come forward to the European Parliament with a more balanced document.